

Section/Number: Healthy Eating – 03	Approval Date: (DD/MM/YY)
Subject: Breastfeeding Friendly Facilities	Amendment Dates:
<p><u>Policy</u></p> <p>Women need to feel comfortable breastfeeding their children <i>whenever</i> they are hungry, <i>wherever</i> they are. The Community Government Name, hereby supports and welcomes breastfeeding and all municipal buildings are to be breastfeeding friendly.</p> <p>A positive and healthy family is influenced not only by their home life, but also by their involvement in community activities and public events. Public spaces like parks, community centres, pools, and arenas are part of the foundation of a vibrant community. A community which explicitly supports breastfeeding families sends a message that they are welcome, they are included, and they are supported.</p>	
<p>Definitions</p> <p>N/A</p>	

Guidelines:

1. A breastfeeding friendly facility means:
 - Mothers are welcome to breastfeed their children anywhere on the premises at any time.
 - Staff is aware of the rights of the mother to breastfeed their children anytime, anywhere.
 - Staff has the information to respond to any concerns or complaints from other patrons with respect to a breastfeeding mother.

2. Clear and visible signage which indicates that the facility is supportive of breastfeeding women. This can help to reduce some of the discomfort to breastfeed in public.
 - 2.1. Along with the sign in a visible location in the facility, consider also adding a decal on the entrance to the facility so families can immediately see that breastfeeding is welcome.

3. Staff Training - All staff should be aware that the right to breastfeed is protected under the Human Rights Legislation and should be able to respond to complaints related to breastfeeding if they arise.

4. There are many ways that the public can be made aware that breastfeeding is supported. Example: Posters displayed in the buildings, notice on municipal website, sticker or decal on front door of building, Pamphlets at the front reception desk, etc.

Attachments

Sample Decals of Breastfeeding Friendly Facility
SMP Private Breastfeeding Room/Area

References

Community Breastfeeding Alliance of Waterloo Region
Moms Boobs and Babies – NWT